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2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024

Dear Parents,

## Book Week 2024

We will be celebrating Book Week in the week beginning Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March. More details will be given nearer the time, but if your child likes to dress up, you may want to start thinking about a book character costume for your child to wear on World Book Day (Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March). There will be lots of book-themed activities taking place during the week in school. As something fun to do at home, there will be a competition to design a book character made from a vegetable! There will be a school book fair after school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Finally, we shall be having a raffle, with the prize of a signed drawing of Supertato, which was created by Paul Linnet, who writes and illustrates the Supertato books and many others, alongside Sue Hendra. We are looking forward to a great week of book-related fun!

## Chickens

February half term is fast approaching and Mrs McKiernan would really appreciate some support with looking after our lovely chickens, Rainbow and Ruby. If you would be happy to help over the half term break please let Mrs McKiernan know or let the office know. Please state the dates you would be happy to do for us. This can be two days or longer, any help is appreciated. The chickens can be left for a few days as long as their food and water is topped up beforehand.

## Christian Values Reward System

We now have a whole-school reward system, which links to our Christian values. Every time we notice that a child does something that shows one of our values – love, trust, compassion and respect- their name is recorded next to it on a record sheet in class. If every child in the class has their name next to at least two of the values by the end of term, then the class get a reward. If any of the children manage to get their name in all four areas, they are invited to a special tea party with me. I am delighted to tell you that I shall be holding two tea parties next week, due to the fantastic attitudes and behaviour of so many of our children!

Reception	Grace, Isabelle
Year 1	Mia, Alexander, Eve
Year 2	Talia, Amelia
Year 3	Dylan T., Dylan V., Maria
Year 4	Nevach, Brooke, Lily, Caleb, Sophie N.
Year 5	Joseph, Ben
Year 6	Olivia, Florrie, Paishey

*Nurturing the spark of God within*

*“Those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles” Isaiah 40:31*



## Football

Congratulations to our school football team who played their first match against Burham Primary School this week. The team were amazing – they behaved beautifully and represented us so well. We are very proud of all of them. An 8 -1 victory really was the icing on the cake!



I would like to thank Mrs De-Machen who has given up so much of her time to coach the team so brilliantly, and Mr Davey for being great with the children and refereeing so well. Thanks to them both. Mrs Ward had a lovely afternoon accompanying the children, enjoying the football, leading the cheering and doing the first aid as required! I am very grateful to all of them!

## Safer Internet Day

Next week we will be joining schools and youth organisations across the UK in celebrating Safer Internet Day 2024. Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers and more, to help to create a better internet.

This year the campaign will be focusing on change online, this includes covering:

- Young people's perspective on new and emerging technology
  - Using the internet to make change for the better
  - The changes young people want to see online
  - The things that can influence and change the way young people think, feel and act online and offline
- Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote in school/our group/our club, and celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year.

We would be delighted if you could join us in celebrating the day by continuing the conversation at home. To help you with this, for the UK Safer Internet Centre have created some free activities and information for parents and carers which are available at: [saferinternet.org.uk/SID-parents](https://saferinternet.org.uk/SID-parents). Whether you have 5 minutes to start a conversation or hours to spare, there are top tips, quizzes and films which you can use at home with your child. If you have any concerns or questions about keeping your child safe online, please do get in touch.

## **Term Dates 2024-2025**

I would just like to remind you of the term dates and INSET Days for the coming academic year:

- Term 1      Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 – INSET Day  
                 Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2024 – Children return to school  
                 Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October – Last day of Term 1 for children  
                 Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024 - INSET Day (children not in school)
- Term 2      Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 – Children return to school  
                 Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024 – Last day of Term 2
- Term 3      Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 – INSET Day (children not in school)  
                 Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025 – Last day of Term 3
- Term 4      Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2025 – Children return to school  
                 Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025 – Last day of Term 4
- Term 5      Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025 – Children return to school  
                 Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025- Last day of Term 5
- Term 6      Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025 – Children return to school  
                 Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025 – Last day of Term 6 for children  
                 Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2025 – INSET Day (children not in school)  
                 Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025 – INSET Day (children not in school)

I do hope this helps with your planning for the year ahead.

Have a lovely weekend!

Best wishes

Tina Holditch  
Headteacher